

Sub C37 10. (AMENDED) A decrypting apparatus, comprising:

A2 circuit means, having at least one programmable logic device, for forming a decrypting circuit with the programmable logic device corresponding to given decrypting specifications; and

5 changing means for reading change data for changing the decrypting specifications and automatically changing a structure of the decrypting circuit corresponding to the change data.

Sub D3 19. (AMENDED) A signal processing apparatus, comprising:

circuit means, having at least one programmable logic device, for forming a circuit corresponding to given specifications; and

A3 5 changing means for reading change data for changing the specifications of the circuit, the change data representing one of encrypting specifications or decrypting specifications, and automatically changing a structure of the circuit corresponding to the change data.

20. (AMENDED) An encryption processing system for use with a communication system for exchanging encrypted data through a communication network, comprising:

encrypting circuit means, having at least one programmable logic device, for forming an encrypting circuit corresponding to given encrypting specifications;

5 encryption changing means for reading encryption change data for changing the encrypting specifications and automatically changing a structure of the encrypting circuit corresponding to the encryption change data;

decrypting circuit means, having at least one programmable logic device, for forming a decrypting circuit corresponding to given decrypting specifications; and

10 decryption changing means for reading decryption change data for changing the decrypting specifications and automatically changing a structure of the decrypting circuit corresponding to the decryption change data.

Sub C57 23. (AMENDED) An encrypting method, comprising [the steps of]: